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LIGHTNING SPARKS HOUSEFIRE; DAMAGES ESTIMATED AT \$40,000

(May 25, 2005) Investigators say lightning, which resulted from this afternoon's severe storms, sparked a house fire in Frisco that resulted in more than \$40,000 in damages.

Frisco firefighters say lightening struck a home at 3727 Whitefish Lake Drive, which is in the Plantation Springs subdivision.

It happened at approximately 1:48 p.m. Frisco firefighters arrived at 1:53 p.m. and found flames shooting from the roof. By 2:16 p.m., firefighters had extinguished the fire.

Investigators say flames were confined to the attic, adding portions of the home home's roof will have to be replaced. The home's living room suffered some minor smoke and water damage.

The homeowner was home at the time of the lightning strike; however, he and his pets escaped unharmed. The rest of the family was not home at the time. No one was hurt.

Also related to today's severe storms, firefighters responded to a second lightning strike at a home at 7234 Chinquapin Drive. It happened at approximately 1:52 p.m. In that case, there was no fire but several of the homes electrical devices and appliances were damaged.

City crews with the Public Works department responded to reports of fallen trees blocking roadways on Plantation Lane and in downtown Frisco, near the intersection of Ash and 7th. In both cases, those downed trees have been removed from roadways.

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